

Message Text

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FOR HODDING CARTER FROM S/PRS - FRED BROWN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R.)

SUBJECT: PRESS REPORTS: CARTER-SCHMIDT MEETING

NO. 12

1. HEREWITH EXCERPTS FROM ARTICLE BY HEDRICK SMITH APPEAR-
ING IN MAY 8 NEW YORK TIMES HEADLINED "CARTER AND SCHMIDT
MEND FENCES, BUT NUCLEAR ISSUE DEVIDES THEM".

2. BEGIN TEXT:

LONDON, MAY 7--PRESIDENT CARTER AND CHANCELLOR HELMUT
SCHMIDT OF WEST GERMANY, WHO HAVE CLASHED ON SEVERAL KEY
ISSUES RECENTLY, MADE A PUBLIC SHOW OF MENDING FENCES TODAY,
BUT WITHOUT HAVING RESOLVED THEIR DIFFERENCES ON CONTROL-
LING THE SPREAD OF NUCLEAR-WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY.

THE TROUBLESOME NUCLEAR ISSUE WAS ALSO REPORTEDLY RAISED
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WITH MR. CARTER BY PRIME MINISTER TAKEO FUKUDA OF JAPAN IN
A BRIEF AND HURRIEDLY SCHEDULED MEETING THIS AFTERNOON,
JUST BEFOR THE START OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVEN-
NATION ECONOMIC MEETING HERE.

INFORMED DIPLOMATIC SOURCES SAID PRESIDENT CARTER AND
CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT HAD ARGUED OVER THE NUCLEAR ISSUE LAST

NIGHT AT A BRITISH DINNER GIVEN FOR THE VISITING LEADERS. THEY WERE UNDERSTOOD TO BE SEEKING SOME ARRANGEMENT TO PUT OFF ULTIMATE HANDLING OF THE ISSUE BY NAMING AN INTERNATIONAL STUDY GROUP.

BUT THE ISSUE OF HOW TO EFFECTIVELY CONTROL NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION WAS STILL LEFT UNRESOLVED, EUROPEAN DIPLOMATIC SOURCES SAID.

THIS MORNING, WHEN THE TWO MEN MET FOR BREAKFAST AT WINFIELD HOUSE, THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE, THEY EVIDENTLY PUT ASIDE THE NUCLEAR QUESTION FOR OTHER ISSUES. LATER THEY PRONOUNCED THEMSELVES PLEASED WITH THEIR TALKS AND ANNOUNCED THAT MR. SCHMIDT WOULD PAY HIS FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT TO PRESIDENT CARTER IN WASHINGTON JULY 13 AND 14.

BECAUSE OF WEST GERMANY'S ECONOMIC POWER AND IMPORTANCE TO THE WESTERN ALLIANCE, COOPERATION BETWEEN MR. CARTER AND MR. SCHMIDT IS WIDELY REGARDED AS VITAL FOR A SENSE OF UNITY AND CONFIDENCE IN THE ATLANTIC COMMUNITY AS WELL AS BEING A TOUCHSTONE FOR THE NEW AMERICAN PRESIDENT'S LEADERSHIP IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

BOTH SIDES PUT AN UPBEAT INTERPRETATION ON THEIR RELATIONS TODAY. AFTER WHAT AN AMERICAN PARTICIPANT DESCRIBED AS "A VERY FORTHRIGHT, DIRECT, FRANK DISCUSSION" BETWEEN THE TWO LEADERS, MR. CARTER SAID IN ANSWER TO A REPORTER'S QUESTION THAT THE TALKS "COULDN'T HAVE BEEN BETTER. WE UNCLASSIFIED

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HAD NO REMAINING DIFFERENCES."

BUT THE COMMENTS OF ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI, THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISOR ON NATIONAL SECURITY, AND OF MR. SCHMIDT HIMSELF INDICATED THAT THE TWO LEADERS STILL HAD NOT YET COMPLETELY BRIDGED THE GAP BETWEEN MR. SCHMIDT'S DECLARED DETERMINATION TO SELL WEST GERMAN NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY TO THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES EVEN WHEN IT HAS WEAPONS-MAKING POTENTIAL, AND MR. CARTER'S FIRM OPPOSITION TO SUCH SALES.....

.....BOTH SIDES SEEMED EAGER IN PUBLIC AT LEAST, TO AVOID ALLUSION TO THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE TWO MEN ON THE PROXIMATE DOSAGES OF ECONOMIC STIMULATION FOR THE WEST GERMAN ECONOMY OR THE PROPER APPROACH TO MOSCOW ON HUMAN RIGHTS, AS WELL AS THE NUCLEAR ISSUE.

NOR DID ANYONE ALLUDE TO MR. SCHMIDT'S POLITICALLY EMBARRASSING ENDORSEMENT OF GERALD FORD DURING THE LAST

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION. "IT WORRIES HIM MORE THAN IT DOES
-US," SAID A CARTER AIDE

MR. SCHMIDT HIMSELF CHARACTERIZED HIS SESSION WITH PRES-
IDENT CARTER, WHOM HE HAD FIRST MET SEVERAL YEARS AGO WHEN
MR. CARTER WAS GOVERNOR OF GEORGIA AND HE WAS SERVING AS
FINANCE MINISTER IN BONN, AS "REALLY GOOD, IF NOT TO SAY
EXCELLENT."

NONETHELESS, SEVERAL SENSITIVE AND POTENTIALLY DIVISIVE
ISSUES AROSE DURING A HASTILY ARRANGED MEETING THIS
AFTERNOON BETWEEN PRESIDENT CARTER AND PRIME MINISTER
TAKEO FUKUDA OF JAPAN.

END TEXT:

3. REMAINDER OF ARTICLE CONTAINS QUOTES FROM BRZEZINSKI
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READOUT.

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